

sub 5 5. (Unchanged) The surgical tool of claim 1, wherein the at least one electrode further comprises a non-stick coating.

6. (Unchanged) The surgical tool of claim 5, wherein the non-stick coating comprises one of fluoropolymers, ceramic titanium alloys, and ceramics.

A.6 7. (Amended) The surgical tool of claim 4, wherein the at least one electrode comprises a wire rod, the wire rod having a thickness of about 0.6 mm or less.

8. (Unchanged) The surgical tool of claim 1, wherein the tip comprises one of silicon carbide, tungsten carbide, sapphire, steel, and diamond.

9. (Unchanged) The surgical tool of claim 1, wherein the at least one electrode comprises a friction reducing compound.

10. (Unchanged) The surgical tool of claim 1, wherein the surgical tool further comprises a contact electrode in electrical communication with the at least one electrode.

11. (Unchanged) The surgical tool of claim 1, wherein the tip comprises one of a lance and bifacet edge.

A.7 12. (Amended) The surgical tool of claim 1, wherein the at least one electrode comprises one of titanium nitride, silicon carbide, and tungsten carbide.

13. (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing a surgical tool, comprising:
coupling a tip to a handle;
forming at least one cutting edge on the tip; and
forming at least one electrode integral with the tip.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, further comprising coupling a contact electrode to the handle and establishing an electrical communication with the at least one electrode.

15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, further comprising coupling an energy source to the contact electrode and delivering an electrical current to the at least one electrode through the contact electrode.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, further comprising applying a non-stick coating to the at least one electrode.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, further comprising applying a friction reducing coating to the at least one electrode.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein the forming step further comprises forming a cavity in the tip and embedding the at least one electrode in the cavity.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein the forming step further comprises bonding the at least one electrode to an edge of the tip.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, further comprising removing the at least one electrode by acid etching.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, further comprising coupling the tip to a locking mechanism.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, further comprising coupling the tip to a cooling mechanism.

~~23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15, further comprising delivering the electrical current through an edge of the tip.~~

~~24. (Canceled) A surgical tool, comprising:
a housing; and
an electrically conductive tip coupled to the housing, the tip having a mechanical cutting edge bonded to a portion of the tip.~~

~~25. (Canceled) The surgical tool of claim 24, wherein the tip further comprises one of tungsten carbide, silicon carbide, sapphire, steel, and diamond.~~

~~26. (Canceled) The surgical tool of claim 24, wherein the at least one electrode comprises one of titanium nitride, silicon carbide, or tungsten carbide.~~

~~27. (Canceled) A surgical tool comprising,
a tip coupled to a handle, the tip including a diamond cutting edge;
and a plurality of electrodes formed on a surface of the tip, the plurality of electrodes not covering the cutting edge.~~

28. (Unchanged) A surgical tool, comprising:
a tip having a mechanical cutting edge, the tip being coupled to a handle;
a push/pull device formed integral with the handle; and
an electrode coupled to a distal end of the push/pull device, the electrode passing across a surface of the tip, when the push/pull device is actuated.

29. (Amended) A system for cauterizing and cutting, comprising:
a surgical tool having a tip and a handle coupled to the tip, the tip including a mechanical cutting edge and at least one electrode attached to a non-mechanical cutting edge of the tip;

a contact electrode passing through the handle and electrically coupled to the at least one electrode; and

an energy source coupled to the handle to deliver electrocautery energy to the at least one electrode via the contact electrode.

30. (Amended) A surgical tool, comprising:
a tip having at least one mechanical cutting edge and at least one electrode attached to a non-mechanical cutting edge of the tip, the tip being removably and frictionally engaged to a handle; and
a contact electrode formed inside the handle, the contact electrode being in electrical communication with the at least one electrode when the tip is removably and frictionally engaged to the handle.

31. (Amended) The surgical tool of claim 30 further comprising a button formed integral with the handle and an energy source in electrical communication with the contact electrode, the electrical source delivering an electrical current to the tip in response to the button being pressed.--

Please add new claims 32-84.

32. (New) A device, comprising:
a tip having at least one mechanical cutting edge;
and at least one electrode attached to a non-mechanical cutting edge of the tip, wherein the at least one electrode itself delivers an electrical current to an application site to perform electrocautery at the application site.

33. (New) The device of claim 32 wherein the at least one electrode comprises a wire rod having a thickness of about 0.6mm or less.

34. (New) The device of claim 32, wherein the at least one electrode comprises one of titanium, platinum, copper, nickel, tin, gold, chromium, iron, and silver.

35. (New) The device of claim 32, wherein the at least one electrode comprises a non-stick coating.

36. (New) The device of claim 35, wherein the non-stick coating comprises one of fluoropolymers, ceramic titanium alloys and ceramics.

37. (New) The device of claim 32, wherein the tip comprises at least one cavity and wherein the at least one electrode comprises a wire rod embedded in the cavity.

38. (New) The device of claim 37, wherein the wire rod comprises a thickness of about 0.6mm or less.

39. (New) The device of claim 32, wherein the at least one electrode comprises a friction reducing compound.

40. (New) The device of claim 32, wherein the tip comprises one of silicon carbide, tungsten carbide, sapphire, steel, and diamond.

41. (New) The device of claim 32, wherein the device further comprises a contact electrode in electrical communication with the at least one electrode.

42. (New) The device of claim 32, wherein the tip comprises one of a lance and a bifacet edge.

43. (New) The device of claim 32, wherein the at least one electrode comprises one of titanium nitride, silicon carbide, and tungsten carbide.

44. (New) A device, comprising:
a tip having a mechanical cutting edge to make an incision at an application site;
and
at least one electrode attached to a non-mechanical cutting edge of the tip.
45. (New) The device of claim 44 wherein the at least one electrode comprises a wire rod having a thickness of about 0.6mm or less.
46. (New) The device of claim 44, wherein the at least one electrode comprises one of titanium, platinum, copper, nickel, tin, gold, chromium, iron, and silver.
47. (New) The device of claim 44, wherein the at least one electrode comprises a non-stick coating.
48. (New) The device of claim 47, wherein the non-stick coating comprises one of fluoropolymers, ceramic titanium alloys and ceramics.
49. (New) The device of claim 44, wherein the tip comprises at least one cavity and wherein the at least one electrode comprises a wire rod embedded in the cavity.
50. (New) The device of claim 49, wherein the wire rod comprises a thickness of about 0.6mm or less.
51. (New) The device of claim 44, wherein the at least one electrode comprises a friction reducing compound.
52. (New) The device of claim 44, wherein the tip comprises one of silicon carbide, tungsten carbide, sapphire, steel, and diamond.

53. (New) The device of claim 44, wherein the device further comprises a contact electrode in electrical communication with the at least one electrode.

54. (New) The device of claim 44, wherein the tip comprises one of a lance and a bifacet edge.

55. (New) The device of claim 44, wherein the at least one electrode comprises one of titanium nitride, silicon carbide, and tungsten carbide.

56. (New) The surgical tool of claim 28, wherein the at least one electrode comprises one of titanium, platinum, copper, nickel, tin, gold, chromium, iron, and silver.

57. (New) The surgical tool of claim 28, wherein the at least one electrode comprises a non-stick coating.

58. (New) The surgical tool of claim 57, wherein the non-stick coating comprises one of fluoropolymers, ceramic titanium alloys and ceramics.

59. (New) The surgical tool of claim 28, wherein the at least one electrode comprises a friction reducing compound.

60. (New) The surgical tool of claim 28, wherein the tip comprises one of silicon carbide, tungsten carbide, sapphire, steel, and diamond.

61. (New) The surgical tool of claim 28, wherein the tip comprises one of a lance and a bifacet edge.

62. (New) The surgical tool of claim 28, wherein the at least one electrode comprises one of titanium nitride, silicon carbide, and tungsten carbide.

63. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein the at least one electrode comprises one of titanium, platinum, copper, nickel, tin, gold, chromium, iron, and silver.

64. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein the at least one electrode comprises at least one wire rod, the wire rod having a thickness of about 0.6mm or less.

65. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein the tip further comprises a cavity and wherein the at least one electrode comprises a wire rod embedded in the cavity.

66. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein the at least one electrode further comprises a non-stick coating.

67. (New) The system of claim 66, wherein the non-stick coating comprises one of fluoropolymers, ceramic titanium alloys, and ceramics.

68. (New) The system of claim 65, wherein the at least one electrode comprises a wire rod, the wire rod having a thickness of about 0.6mm or less.

69. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein the tip comprises one of silicon carbide, tungsten carbide, sapphire, steel, and diamond.

70. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein the at least one electrode comprises a friction reducing compound.

71. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein the system further comprises a contact electrode in electrical communication with the at least one electrode.

72. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein the tip comprises one of a lance and a bifacet edge.

73. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein the at least one electrode comprises one of titanium nitride, silicon carbide, and tungsten carbide.

74. (New) The surgical tool of claim 30, wherein the at least one electrode comprises one of titanium, platinum, copper, nickel, tin, gold, chromium, iron, and silver.

75. (New) The surgical tool of claim 30, wherein the at least one electrode comprises at least one wire rod, the wire rod having a thickness of about 0.6mm or less.

76. (New) The surgical tool of claim 30, wherein the tip further comprises a cavity and wherein the at least one electrode comprises a wire rod embedded in the cavity.

77. (New) The surgical tool of claim 30, wherein the at least one electrode further comprises a non-stick coating.

78. (New) The surgical tool of claim 77, wherein the non-stick coating comprises one of fluoropolymers, ceramic titanium alloys, and ceramics.

79. (New) The surgical tool of claim 76, wherein the at least one electrode comprises a wire rod, the wire rod having a thickness of about 0.6mm or less.

80. (New) The surgical tool of claim 30, wherein the tip comprises one of silicon carbide, tungsten carbide, sapphire, steel, and diamond.

81. (New) The surgical tool of claim 30, wherein the at least one electrode comprises a friction reducing compound.

82. (New) The surgical tool of claim 30, wherein the surgical tool further comprises a contact electrode in electrical communication with the at least one electrode.

83. (New) The surgical tool of claim 30, wherein the tip comprises one of a lance and a bifacet edge.

84. (New) The surgical tool of claim 30, wherein the at least one electrode comprises one of titanium nitride, silicon carbide, and tungsten carbide.

In the drawings:

Enclosed are 8 sheets of amended drawings for the application with changes indicated in red.

Applicants submit that no new matter is introduced and requests approval of the amended drawings.